

I claim:

1. A computer program process, called a wizard builder, executable on a computer, for adapting an application program to function with devices or sensors monitoring or controlling a process occurring in real-time, wherein the wizard builder constructs a setup wizard which sets up a de facto interface between the devices or sensors and the application program, wherein the setup wizard is constructed by means of asking a human user of the application program simple verbal questions, in English or other language convenient to a human user, about the model and manufacturer of the devices or sensors, and wherein the wizard builder does not require a human user to have any knowledge of writing or using computer programs.
2. The process of claim 1, further comprising a computer program process, wherein a human user of the application program can alter the setup wizard, thus creating another setup wizard, which can be run to set up an application program with connection details and properties of other devices or sensors.
3. The process of claim 1, further comprising a computer program process, wherein the setup wizard constructed by the computer program process is adapted to be moved to another computer by a human user without any knowledge of writing computer programs.
4. The process of claim 3, wherein the setup wizard is in the form of a disk file that can be readily moved to another computer.

5. The process of claim 2, wherein the setup wizard is adapted to be altered by a wizard program which displays original answers to the verbal or other suitable language questions and provides a prompt for a human user to enter new answers about the devices or sensors.

6. The process of claim 1, further comprising a server program which contains data values for many devices or sensors for monitoring or controlling a process occurring in real-time, and wherein the setup wizard sets up a de facto interface between the application program, and the server program.

7. The process of claim 1, further comprising a process for creating the setup wizard comprising the steps of:

- (a) the user's instructing the application program to create a wizard,
- (b) the application software's displaying verbal questions for the user requesting details of connection to, and operating properties of, or both, a first device or sensor, and subsequently, in sequence, of any other devices or sensors having different connection details or operating properties, and
- (c) the application software's storing answers in a setup wizard file which defines the setup wizard.

8. The process of claim 1, further comprising a process for altering the setup wizard comprising the steps of:

- (a) the user's instructing the application software to alter the setup wizard,
- (b) the application software's rerunning the verbal questions asked when the setup wizard file was created,
- (c) the applications software's setting the default answers to the verbal questions from the contents of the setup wizard file,
- (d) if the user alters a previous answer, the application software's altering the contents of the file for the setup wizard file,
- (e) the application software's asking the user by verbal questions for details of connection to, or operating properties of, or both, a first device or sensor, and subsequently, in sequence, any other devices or sensors having different connections details or operating properties, and
- (f) the application software's storing any alternate answers in the setup wizard file.

9. The process of claim 1, further comprising a process for running a setup wizard comprising the steps of:

- (a) the user's asking the application software to run a wizard,
  - (b) the application software's reading the setup wizard file,
  - (c) the wizard's determining whether the answers to verbal questions are already in the setup wizard file or can be inferred from the answers in the setup wizard file, and
  - (d) if the answer in the preceding step is yes, stopping the process,
- whereby the application is left in a state of having connection details and properties of the devices or sensors.

10. The process of claim 1, further comprising a process for running a setup wizard comprising the steps of:

- (a) the user's asking the application software to run a wizard,
- (b) the application software's reading the setup wizard file,
- (c) the wizard's determining whether the answers to all the verbal questions are already in the setup wizard file or can be inferred from the answers in the setup wizard file,
- (d) if the answer to the preceding question is no, the wizard's asking the user for information that is unique to a new sensor or device, and
- (e) the application software's incorporating connection details and properties of a new device or sensor.

11. The process of claim 1, wherein the wizard builder computer program process is contained within the application software, and wherein a wizard file is held on a memory means within a computer.

12. The process of claim 1, wherein the computer program process wizard operates without the use of script files.

13. A computer program process which uses a wizard to create wizards, for use in connection with application programs, and which does not use scripts.

14. The process of claim 7, wherein the setup wizard file is adapted to be moved to another computer for use with the same or similar application program installed in the other computer.
15. The process of claim 8, wherein the setup wizard file is adapted to be moved to another computer for use with the same or similar application program installed in the other computer.
16. The process of claim 3 wherein the computer running the application software comprises a personal computer, containing a communications card and server software that drives and communicates with the communications card, and wherein the personal computer may be running any suitable operating system software means.
17. The process of claim 14, wherein the wizard file is adapted be moved to another computer by a process of using a transfer means selected from the group consisting of: a floppy disk, serial link, network connection, or email.
18. An article of manufacture comprising a computer readable memory means on which is recorded the computer program process of claim 3.
19. The process of transferring by a means for transferring computer programs in real time, the computer program process of claim 3.
20. An article of manufacture comprising a computer means programmed with the computer program process of claim 3.

21. A wizard builder computer program implemented as a wizard that does not use scripts to build the wizard.